

STATE OF WASHINGTON PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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August 24, 2016

usrcollins@aol.com

Subject: PDC case 7074

Dear Mr. Collins:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its initial review of the complaint you filed on July 28, 2016. Your complaint alleged that Connie O'Neill and Chris Johnson may have violated RCW 42.17A.205 by failing to register as a political action committee (PAC).

PDC staff reviewed your allegations, and as a result of staff's initial review, we found the following:

- The mail pieces that arrived in the envelope with the 'Taxed to the Max' banner could be viewed as PAC generated campaign materials.
- When contacted by PDC staff, Ms. O'Neill and Mr. Johnson stated that they were engaging in grass roots organizing but had crossed the \$100 reporting threshold.
 Working with PDC staff, and encountering significant system issues, they filed a C1PC report on August 10, 2016, with a committee name of 'Chris Johnson' under the Mini-Reporting option which has a \$5000 expenditure limit.
- Ms. O'Neill and Mr. Johnson have no previous violations of PDC laws and rules regarding PAC registration.

Based on these initial findings, I have determined the inadvertent failure to file as a PAC, or failure to file an independent expenditure (C6) report, which has now been corrected, does not amount to a material violation warranting further action under these circumstances. The PDC has closed the matter, and will not be conducting a more formal investigation into your complaint.

If you have questions, you may contact Jacob Berkey toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at Jacob.berkey@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Jacob Berkey

PDC Compliance

Endorsed by

Evelyn Fielding Lør

Executive Director